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Vol.6, No.21 BI-WEEKLY URDU-ENGLISH NEWSPAPER TO SERVE THE PAKISTANI COMMUNITY ABROAD JANUARY 15, 1978

All NAP Leaders Released:

HYDERABAD TRIBUNAL ABOLISHED

Military Officers Also Released

Islamabad: In his new-year news conference Chief Martial Law Administrator announced abolition of the Hyderabad Tribunal and withdrew charges against all political prisoners belonging to the banned National Awami Party.

Wali Khan, who was released on Dec. 7, 77 along with 15 other members of his banned party was flown to Peshawar in the same plane that Bhutto had ordered for his personal use.

Gen. Zia also announced that officers of the armed forces court martialled in 1973 for plotting to overthrow Bhutto's regime were also being released. A petition was made by the wives of the jailed officers soon after the July 5 military take-over asking Gen. Zia to release the officers. The wives contended that the jailed officers were sentenced for doing in April 1973 what Gen. Zia himself did on July 5, 1977.

Bogus Charges

In withdrawing cases against NAP leaders, Gen. Zia has paved the way for cleaner politics in Pakistan. There was a general feeling in the country that Wali Khan and his party-members were jailed purely out of personal animosity by Bhutto. The charges against them were bogus and throughout Wali's trial, Bhutto made repeated offers to win his support. Wali Khan, however continuously resisted bribes and preferred to stay in jail instead of compromising with Bhutto.

Poor Response For Jan. 5 Strike Call

A call to general strike by Nusrat Bhutto on January 5 to observe the so-called "Democracy day" appears to have gone un-noticed in Pakistan as people went about their own ways. The call was made by Nusrat Bhutto in defiance of martial law regulations and to coincide with the 50th birthday of her jailed husband.

On January 5, about 150 people were arrested in Karachi for violating martial law regulations and at least 53 were sentenced to lashes or one-year jail terms by the Sind Military authorities.

Nusrat Bhutto and her daughter meanwhile stayed away in the sanctuary of their luxurious bungalow.

The former prime minister is reported to be suffering from acute mental depression. He is already alleged to have smashed the TV set and furniture in his cell and is now reported to have decided against appearing in court to face charges.

New Charges Likely

Along with the charge of murder faced by Bhutto, reliable sources have reported that fresh charges are likely to be introduced against Bhutto shortly. These included plotting the murder of the former Chief minister of NWFP, Hayat Sherpao, embezzlement of funds, abuse of office and breaking up the country. It is reported that several private citizens may also bring charges against the former prime minister.

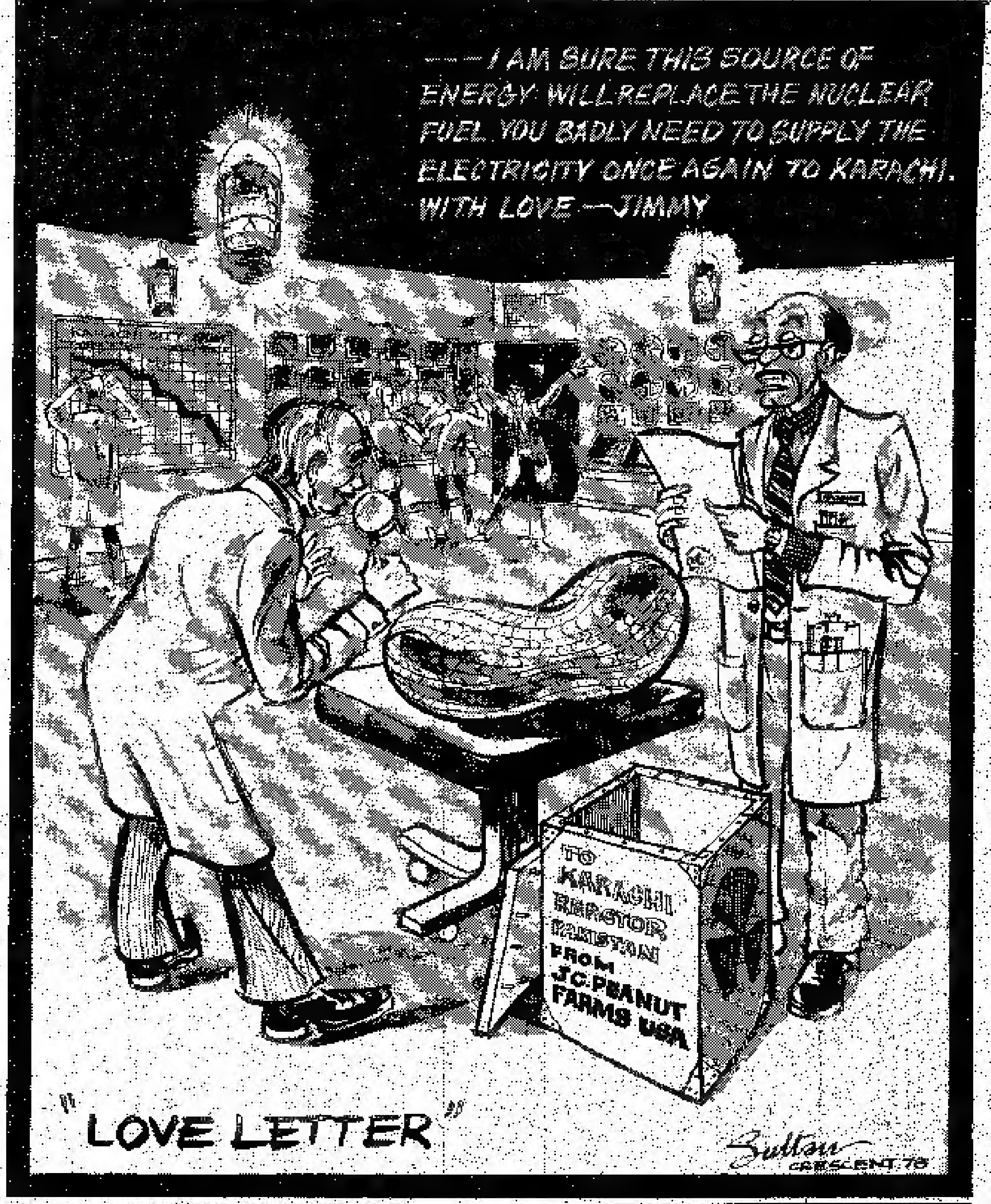
Multan Firing Kills Five

Multan: During a strike for more bonus pay, five workers at Multan were reported killed during new year's demonstrations, by police firing. The workers were demanding six-months' bonus pay at new year while they were paid only a two-and-a-half months' extra pay as bonus. In support of their demands, workers came out in streets which resulted in clashes and shooting with the police.

According to some reports, the death toll is put at 12 and scores have been reported injured.

M.E. Tour

A twelve member Pakistan trade delegation left Karachi Sunday Jan. 2, 1978 on a four week tour of Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. It discussed measures to promote trade and the possibilities of collaboration in other economic fields with the countries.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Enver Jamall managing director PIA visits Toronto

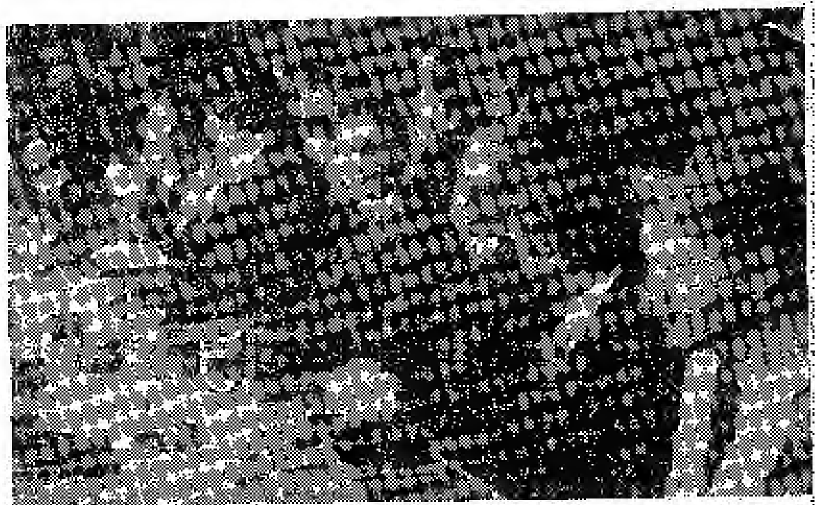
PIA seeking accord

Pakistan International Airlines is seeking a commercial agreement with either Air Canada or CP Air to enable PIA to begin flights to Canada, according to Enver Jamall, the airline's managing director.

The Chief Executive acknowledged the patronage of the Pakistanis living in Canada and USA, stating that he was well aware of the multiple difficulties faced, especially by Pakistani Canadians while boarding PIA via New York. He said that to facilitate these passengers, PIA is looking into providing better facilities at Toronto International Airport for embarking and disembarking.

Pakistan and Canada have a bilateral air agreement, which provides Pakistan with access to Montreal, Mr. Jamall said on a visit to Toronto. However, PIA has not begun a service to Canada because of light load factors. It is seeking to work out an agreement with either of the two Canadian carriers to pick up passengers at intermediate points in the Middle East and bring them to Canada, in addition to carrying traffic that originates in Pakistan. At present, passengers carried from these points by PIA and destined for Canada transfer to the Canadian carriers in Europe.

Photo by S. Ahmad



Mr. Enver Jamall managing director of PIA gave a press conference and reception to the local and Pakistani Press. The picture shows Mr. Anver Jamall with Arshad Masood, general manager for US and Canada, and Henry Williams, passenger sales manager, Asaad Durrani, district sales manager, Ont. and M. Shazada, district sales manager, Quebec.

Mr. Jamall said the ability to pick up passengers en route from Pakistan for Canada would enable PIA to start a Canadian service of at least two flights a week. It now operates across the North Atlantic from Paris to New York. Such a Canadian service probably could originate in Paris for Montreal.

He noted that PIA would be willing to share revenue with the Canadian carriers, if an agreement for an intermediate point pickup of Canadian-bound traffic can be reached. He said Canada has an ethnic group of about 25,000 Pakistanis, concentrated mainly in the Toronto and Southern Ontario areas, who now fly to New York for a connecting PIA flight on any visit to their homeland. PIA service to Montreal would permit them to fly direct from Canada.

More Urdu and Spanish Heard In Metro Toronto

(Canadian Scene)—The latest figures from Statistics Canada show that Metro Toronto's ethnic make-up radically altered in the first half of this decade, with an increase in the number of residents speaking Urdu (from Pakistan), Spanish, Japanese and Chinese. The number of people whose mother tongue is Hungarian, Italian, Yiddish or German decreased. Across Canada Statistics Canada shows these increases in ethnic groups: Indo-Pakistani, 80 per cent, Spanish, 65 per cent, Portuguese, 46 per cent and Chinese and Japanese, 33 per cent.

INTRODUCE

Crescent

TO A FRIEND

Focus on Immigration

By George Bonavia

Since the new Canadian Immigration Act was passed by Parliament in August 1977, many questions are being asked. The following are answers to some of the most commonly-asked questions. If legal interpretations are required, consult the appropriate sections of the Act (Chapter 52 of the Statutes of Canada, 1976-77) which are noted at the end of each answer.

1. When will the new Act come into effect?

Our immigration program will continue to be administered under the 1952 law until the new Act is proclaimed in 1978. (Refer to section 129 of the Act)

2. Who will be able to come to Canada?

The principles regarding admission to Canada remain unchanged, based on non-discriminatory grounds with regard to race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion or sex. However, all non-residents must meet basic admission standards designed to protect public health, safety, order and national security.

Visitors will be required to have sufficient funds to support themselves during their visit, and those wishing to study or work temporarily will have to obtain prior authorization abroad before coming into the country.

Persons seeking permanent residence in Canada will continue to be selected abroad according to standards designed to assess their capacity for successful settlement. (Refer to sections 3, 5, 6 of the Act)

3. How will the selection system work?

Selection will still be based on the applicant's ability to become successfully established in Canada. Detailed assessments will be made according to selection standards (the "point system"), which will continue to be set out in regulations.

Immigrants will be selected under three basic admissible classes as follows:

The family class is similar to the present sponsored class for immediate family members, but will remove the minimum age limit for parents sponsored by Canadian citizens. Family class applicants will not be assessed under the point system but will have to meet the basic standards of good health and character.

Convention refugees will not be selected under the point system, but rather on their general ability to adapt to Canadian life, taking into account the settlement assistance available to them from both government and non-government sources. Also the Act makes provision for regulations permitting the admission of displaced and persecuted people, who do not precisely fit the United Nations definition of "refugee", on a basis similar to refugees, under special circumstances.

Other immigrants, corresponding to the present nominated and independent classes, will continue to be selected on employment-related factors. Persons with relatives willing to assist their settlement will continue to receive bonus selection points. (Refer to sections 3, 6, 115 (1) (a) (c) (d) (e) of the Act)

4. Will people from all parts of the world have an equal opportunity to apply?

Yes. The same selection criteria and processing priorities will be used for all applicants, regardless of where they live, ensuring that members of the family class, Convention refugees, and other immigrants for whom there are urgent and specific needs are given the highest priority.

Prospective immigrants may apply at Canadian visa offices serving their areas of residence. Services are also available in countries where there is no resident visa office, but where Canadian visa officers are permitted to operate. (Refer to sections 3(f), 115(1) (f) of the Act)

5. How will immigration levels be determined?

Immigration levels for Canada will be developed in consultation with the provinces, and other appropriate groups, to determine regional demographic and labour market needs. It is expected that such consultations will result in the establishment of medium and long-term immigration requirements, and that annual levels will be set in the light of such forecasts.

Further, the Act requires the Minister responsible for immigration to make an annual public announcement of the number of immigrants the federal government plans to admit during a given period of time. This number will be a global level, not a country-by-country quota. (Refer to sections 3(a), 7 of the Act)

More questions and answers will be continued in the next issue

Your Child and Television

(Canadian Scene)—"Parents are always asking us, 'What can we do to help our children at School,'" says Douglas Barr, chairman of the Toronto Board of Education. "Send them to bed early, feed them properly, and cut down on their television time," is his answer. The problem has become serious. "It's nothing for children in the primary grades to stay up beyond 11 at night. You hear them talking about shows that are supposedly for adults because they are on late at night," says Lorne Brown, Principal of Kensington Community Public School. Marion Brin, a Kensington teacher, is concerned because it makes children miserable when they are tired, and it hurts their ability to learn. "I think most parents just don't think about it. It's not that they don't care. Some of the parents don't get home from work until 7:00 p.m. and then they don't want to assert themselves. But we are appealing to parents to put their children to bed."

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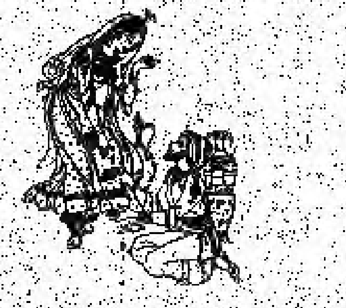

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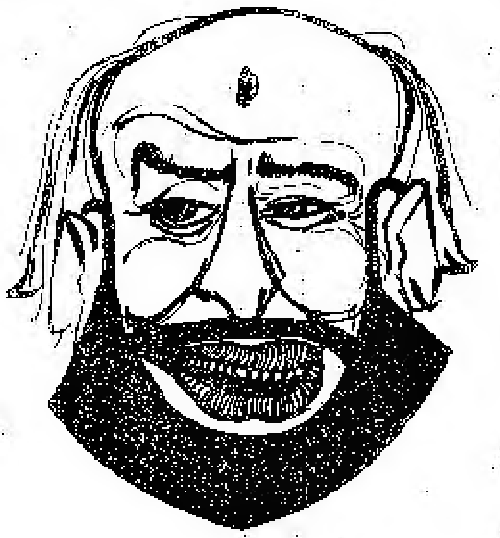
Predictions 1978

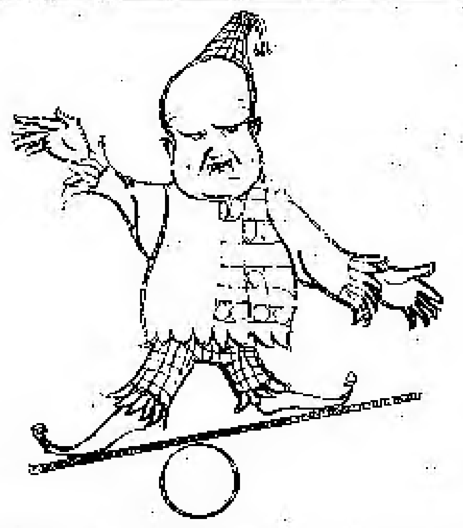
By Sultan Hasan Khan, Scarborough

A political analogy based on three Maulanas, three plain Misters, one Madame, two Generals, and at least one Marshal.



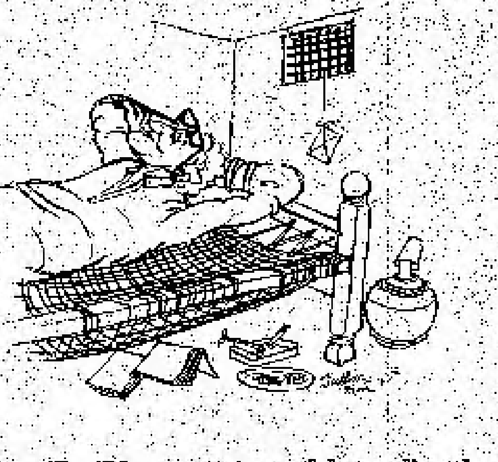
1. Mr. Bhutto will accept the courts ruling that if they find him guilty of the charges, he would have to join the Jamat-e-Islami.

2. Maulana Mufti will be appointed chairman of Pakistan Film Censor Board.



3. Abdul Qayum Khan will announce that he will collaborate with any party only after results of the general election are declared.

4. Maulana Kauser Niazi will retire from politics at last, and officially start an import and export business.

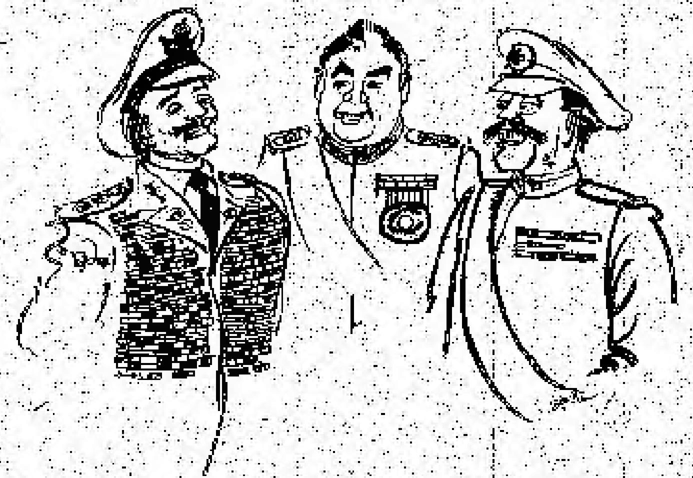


5. Mr. Wali Khan will still be protesting and demanding the reasons for his release from prison.

6. Madame Noorejehan [ex singer] will again come to the nations rescue, and disclose the secrets of the Hamud-ur-Rehman Commission Report in the form of an extra long playing record.

7. Before starting his election campaign, Maulana Maudoodi will decide to take a sandwich course in public relations at a school in the U.S.A.

8. No election will be possible in Pakistan before the electorate can return from abroad.



9. Meanwhile, ex-president Yahya Khan will be appointed arbitrator to decide whether the Army or Air Force is more qualified to run the country.

Political Prisoners

It has been officially stated in Islamabad that eleven thousand one hundred and nine persons against whom cases were instituted on political grounds since January, 1972, have been released and the cases against them withdrawn. Their cases were reviewed as ordered by the CMLA. Those belonging to the punjab are five thousand five hundred and twenty two, the NWFP four thousand one hundred and eighty four, Sind one thousand fifty and Baluchistan three hundred and fifty three.

PNA Will Support Islamic Council

The Central Council of the Pakistan National Alliance has welcomed the Chief Martial Law administrators decision about the introduction of Islamic Laws in the country.

This was stated by the secretary general of the Pakistan National Alliance, professor Ghafoor Ahmad in Lahore Monday, after a meeting of the council. The PNA chief, Maulana Mufti Mehmood presided.

Professor Ghafoor Ahmad said the PNA will give every cooperation in completing the mission of bringing the laws in conformity with The Islamic Injunctions. The council hoped that the people will also extend their cooperation to realise this objective.

The council also welcomed the dissolution of the Hyderabad Tribunal and the release of all political prisoners.

The Tehrik-E-Istiqlal chief, retired air marshal Asghar Khan has also welcomed the dissolution of the Hyderabad Tribunal and said it is a good step forward.

In Karachi, Mr. Abdul Wali Khan said the nation must now shun parochial outlook and establish a truly cohesive national stance so that the people could feel proud of their country, their ideology and their democratic traditions.

He said he was opposed to personality cults which had corrupted the political life and harmed the country...

RCD Tariffs Reduced

The RCD countries are to sign shortly a protocol authori sing ten per cent reduction in the existing tariffs for a small number of selected commodities to be exchanged in the region. This was stated by the RCD secretary General Dr. Ahmad Minai while addressing ambassadors of various countries in Islamabad this afternoon. He said this was in keeping with the Izmir Treaty and was a first step to establish an RCD free trade area to eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers in 10 years time.

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EDITOR: M. Lateef Owaisi

Nuclear Duplicity

U.S. foreign policy has always maintained two faces: one for the weak and well-behaved and the other for those who have some strength and can afford to get away with it. In the field of nuclear policy, the US administration and particularly the present government of Jimmy Carter has maintained a very stiff approach. It has appeared bent on following a policy in which the spread of nuclear technology will be halted. The reason for this of course is that nuclear technology is dangerous and the more it spreads around, the greater the risk to humanity and world peace. These are indeed noble aims and ought to be pursued vigorously and honestly.

However, the actual application of this policy assumes different shapes under varying circumstances. For instance in the case of Pakistan which has maintained a KANNUP reactor at Karachi, supplying the electrical needs of the industrial sector, both the US and Canadian governments have appeared extremely unreasonable in Pakistan's quest for acquiring further reactors for her growing energy requirements. Despite Pakistan's strict adherence to the terms of the agreement with Canada, the latter insisted on extremely stiffer safeguards in the matter of any further purchases of nuclear reactors. So much so that even the fuel supply for KANNUP was cut off to bear pressure on Pakistan to succumb. The US government has similarly applied various forms of blackmail to prevent the acquisition of a reprocessing plant by Pakistan, purchased from France.

If the US and Canadian governmentswere sincere in preventing the spread of nuclear technology and thereby the threat of nuclear bombs and pursued a consistent policy, there would be no complaints. The actual policy operates under a different set of rules. When India acquired its chain of nuclear reactors from Canada, safeguards similar to those applicable to Pakistan were enforced but it would appear that India managed to violate those terms, with the knowledge of the Canadian government and the active encouragement of the US government who supplied all the fuel for their reactors. In May 1974, India exploded a nuclear device to the apparent consternation of Canada and the United States governments. Their immediate reaction was to ban the supply of any further fuel but after a reasonable pause, even larger supplies were shipped to India.

During the recent tour of India, Jimmy Carter once again failed to persuade the Indian government to allow any international inspection teams on its nuclear projects or have it ratify the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Despite Indian refusal to accept any of the terms of the US government, Jimmy Carter announced the shipment of more fuel to India. This can mean only one thing: that the US government really does not want to stop the spread of nuclear weapons or the threat of a nuclear haulocast especially when it comes to governments that the US considers crucial in its foreign policy objectives. The promised 'stiff letter' that Jimmy Carter wants to send to the Indians cannot worry them as long as the shipment of nuclear fuel continues. The Indians on their part have shown gratitude to the US and Jimmy Carter in particular by naming a city, 'CARTERPUR' after him. In a similar vein, the US government also announced the scale of several nuclear reactors to the oil-rich state of Iran whose despotic ruler has continuously violated human rights in his country on a massive scale. Once again, a pious US philosophy of human rights has been sacrificed at the alter of its foreign policy objectives.

There can be no doubt that in the absence of stiffer safeguards, the world would be a less safer place but this can only be effective, if it is applied to all countries, irrespective of their size and importance. Infact, the more militaristic governments like those of India and Iran ought to be held particularly accountable for their conduct, be it in the field of nuclear explosions or violation of human rights of its people.

Jimmy Carter's balancing act will explode in his face because any government, however small and vulnerable, will not allow itself to be bulldozed into a position where its existence would be threatened. Both India and Iran have lousy track records when it comes to relations with its smaller neighbours. The double-faced policy of the US government cannot go un-noticed by those who are concerned about world peace and the welfare of all its people.

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SAYINGS OF
Prophet Muhammed [PBUH]

PRAYER

●

Pray to God morning and evening, and employ the day in your avocation.

●

Prayers lighten the hear , and charity is a proof of Iman (Faith), and abstinence from sin is perfect splendour ; the Quran is a proof of gain to you if you do good, and it is a detriment to you if you do wrong ; and every man who riseth in the morning either doth that which will be the means of his redemption or his ruin.

The Lord does not regard a prayer in which the heart doth not accompany the body.

●

He whom prayer preventeth not from wrongdoing and evil, increaseth in naught save in remoteness from the Lord.

●

O Muhammad! Remember thy Lord in retirement from the people and make prayer thy sleep, and hunger thy food.

Letters to the editor

Dear Sir:

This refers to the "open letter to the Ambassador of Pakistan" in your November 1 issue. May I bring the following to your attention:

(1) Letters, "open" or otherwise are customarily published in the "Letters to the Editor" column, which you have. An 'open letter' in the format that has been used, is usually a paid advertisement and is clearly identified as such, giving full particulars of the advertisor(s).

(2) If you are demanding somebody's head, ask for it editorially. Otherwise your professed neutrality and objectivity will become a joke. Items like this "letter" and earlier Bhutto's family tree, negate your claims to clean journalism. Incidentally that family tree was in extremely poor taste and your attempt to white wash it in this issue is not very convincing.

(3) Now let us carry the arguments to this letter a little further, or higher. If the Ambassador is guilty of supporting the Bhutto regime, then what about the Chiefs of staff of Army Airforce and Navy who had declared the same .. long before July 5 and delivered the message home with bullets. Would the Pakistan Study Circle dare demanding the same of these gentlemen, even sitting in the safety and security of Canada?

Let us call a spade a spade. One day a fellow defends Bhutto, refers to him with all kinds of superlatives. Next week he makes an 'about turn', and behold, he is our latest iron-man, deliverer etc. etc. simply because he has changed the turret of his gun. How many times this 'tamasha' has to be repeated before we get wise, or would we ever?

There are perhaps a hundred or so Ambassadors around the world, multiply this with the number of governments we have since 1947 and you will end up with the largest concentration of ex-diplomats on earth, if this ridiculous demand is made upon every change of government—of course the incoming one is always 'better' till ousted.

(5) As regards the 'shining' examples of Messrs Rahim Khan and Gul Hassan, let me refresh the apparently short memory of Pakistan Study Circle. These two had played a keyrole in East Pakistan Tragedy by virtue of their ranks. Then, by their own admission, they were responsible for imposing illegal Bhutto regime upon the country. And they served under him for many years.

By resigning when their protege' was sinking, they have simply maintained the tradition of our politicians, always on winning side. They may have pacified their own guilty conciences, or vindicated themselves before some people, but they still have to face that ultimate judge the historian.

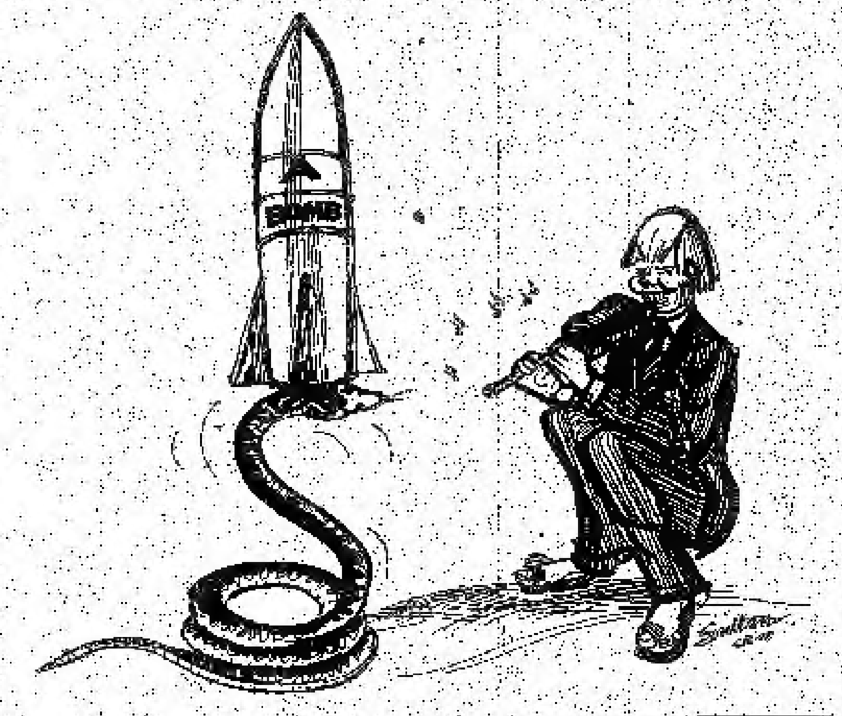
Let us keep Crescent free of home-style yellow journalism; instead let us set new standards of decency.

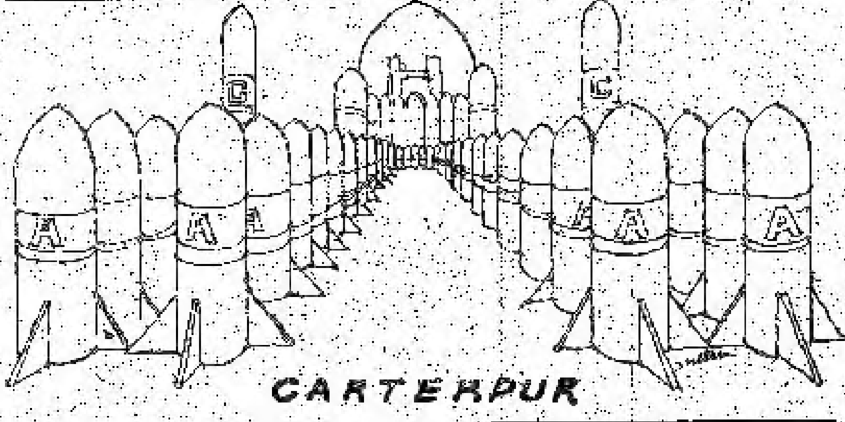
Let us present a clear analysis of what is happening in our unfortunate country and try to come up with some solutions. This is what I expect from my colleagues in the Pakistan Study Circle, and I know they are capable of providing them.

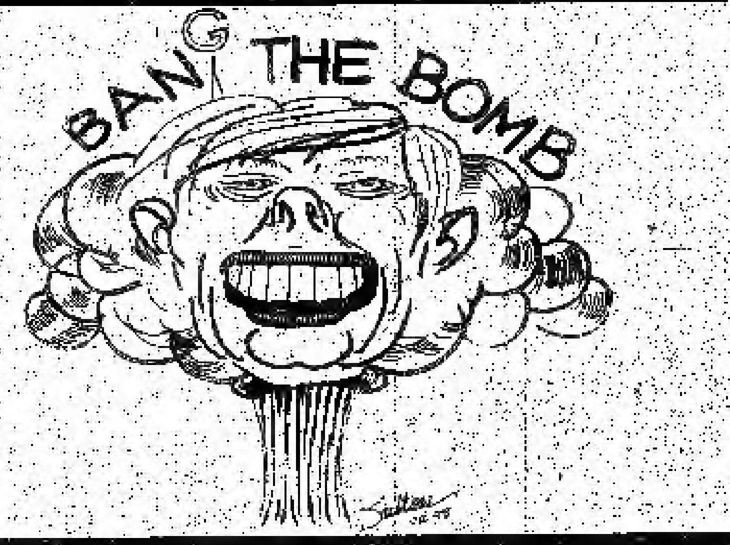
Javed Iqbal
Trinidad West Indies

P.S.

No relation of Dr. Afzal Iqbal!







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Javed Iqbal
Trinidad West Indies

...n of Dr. Afzal Iqbal

Myth and Reality:
Independence or Secession

By S.B. Ahmad, London England

Special for "Crescent"

Governments which come to power by illegitimate means are always haunted by the fear of being regarded as usurpers by their own people in the depths of their hearts. The usual expedient resorted to as a remedy is to seek to rewrite history, to falsify facts, and to demonstrate that their triumph was the inevitable outcome of an inexorable historical process. Whether it is a revolution or a coup or an assassination that is employed to topple the administration, the successor or successors invariably try to convince the public that it is they who could lay claim to real legitimacy, not the rulers whom they supplanted. Consider the whole chain of political changes in recent times from the revolutions in Eastern Europe to the wars in the south-east Asia, from the fall of Nkrumah in Ghana to the seizure of power by Daud Khan in Afghanistan, and the same set phrases will be used to justify the change.

But usually such successor governments take care, if they really care for some show of legitimacy, to bring forward an interpretation of events which might appear consistent with past trend, or to put it differently, which might not seem too violent a twisting of facts. Communist governments rely for this on the discovery of inner dialectical laws. When they kill, butcher and liquidate their "enemies," they present themselves as the agents of an historical process; those liquidated are the class enemies standing in the way of the victory of the proletariat. The latest examples of this are to be found in Vietnam and Cambodia.

When Pakistan administration collapsed in what is now called Bangladesh, as a result of treachery and aggression, and the country was taken over by a puppet government headed by Mujibur Rahman, he claimed to have liberated his people from the tyranny of Pakistan to lend an air of legitimacy to the rebellion he had led, he declared that the Bengali Muslims had not been free before. Ever since then Bangladesh has been celebrating March 26, the date on which Mujib claimed to have declared the country independent, as its Independence Day. At one stroke the entire perspective of history from the advent of British colonialism to the withdrawal of British power in 1947 on the basis of an agreement between the British and the peoples of the subcontinent was altered and those from this area who had played a part in the processes leading to the emergence of the two states of Pakistan and India stood condemned as traitors and conspirators.

Perhaps a brief recapitulation of facts will make the meaning of the above statement clearer.

TOWARDS PARTITION:

Pakistan and India were established as two sovereign dominions in 1947 when the British terminated their two-hundred year rule, in accordance with an agreement to which there were four parties: the British; the Congress representing the majority community, the Hindus; the Muslim League representing the Muslims; and the Sikhs. The last group cast in their lot with the Congress, though as the price of their consent to the creation of Pakistan they insisted on the partition of the province of Punjab. The decision to partition the subcontinent between Hindu-majority Indian Union and a Muslim-majority Pakistan was made reluctantly by the departing rulers, when their efforts to preserve India as a single political entity failed. Behind it lay decades of negotiation and discussion. The stubborn insistence of the Congress on a monolithic power structure in which the Hindus alone could exercise authority and their disregard for the rights of the Muslim population had led to the rise of a movement calling for the establishment of a separate Muslim state consisting of those areas where the majority of the population professed Islam, and the refusal of the Congress in 1946 to accept the three-tier administrative structure proposed by a Cabinet Mission sent out to India by British Prime Minister Attlee had finally convinced the Muslims that their political salvation lay in the creation of a separate state. The movement represented the aspirations of the Muslims of the entire subcontinent, though those of them who lived in Hindu-majority areas were aware that they were destined to be excluded from it. The elections of 1946 removed any doubts as to whether it was really an expression of the political wishes of the Muslim community. In Bengal as well as in the Punjab, the Muslim League under the leadership of M.A. Jinnah made a clean sweep of the Muslim seats, and its representative character could no longer be challenged.

Contribution of Muslim Bengal:

The Pakistan movement grew up as a unified movement among the Muslims. What urged them forward was the vision of a state embodying the best ideals of Islam, a state where they could order their lives in accordance with the principles they believed in. To this the Muslims of Bengal contributed as much as their compeers elsewhere. As a matter of historical fact, the Muslim League had been founded in 1906 at Decca, the present capital of Bangladesh. A.K. Fazlul Huq, Khwaja Nazimuddin, Shaheed Suhrawardy, Akram Khan, Tamizuddin Khan, Fazlur Rahman, Nurul Amin, Habibullah Bahar, to name a few from the leadership of Bengal played decisive roles in the evolution of the Pakistan movement and the shaping of its goal. The original resolution of the Muslim League enunciating the principle of a separate Muslim state was moved at Lahore by A.K. Fazlul Huq, then chief minister of Bengal. It was again the Muslim chief minister of Bengal, this time Shaheed Suhrawardy, upon whom devolved the responsibility of moving the crucial resolution at the Muslim legislators' convention in 1946 spelling out in concrete terms the implications of the Pakistan demand. There was no confusion in any quarter as to what Pakistan meant, a single Muslim state comprising those areas in the west and east where the Muslims were in a majority.

SYLHET REFERENDUM:

The Mountbatten Plan of June 1947 however did not consider this resolution an adequate constitutional basis for the creation of a separate Muslim state. It envisaged, among other things, a clear decision by the members of the Bengal legislature indicating their preference for Pakistan and a referendum in the district of Sylhet. In both cases the verdict of the Muslims was clear and unmistakable: they wanted Pakistan.

Although, the boundary commission under the British lawyer Radcliffe gave away parts of the Muslim areas of Bengal and Sylhet to India, no one among the Hindus or the British doubted that it was with Pakistan that the Muslims of Bengal and Sylhet were casting their lot.

These Muslims were clearly and firmly of the view that independence for Muslims, whether they were located in the west or in the east, meant Pakistan. To assert, as the Awami Leaguers did, that the period from 1947 until 1971 implied in the context of the Muslims of Bengal merely an extension of colonial rule is not only to utter a great historical lie but also to impugn the honesty and intelligence not only of a group of leaders but of the whole generation of Muslims thirty years ago. It is to attribute retrospectively to a set of events an interpretation with no relevance to truth.

SECESSIONISM:

What Mujibur Rahman led was a movement for secession. However painful it might have been, this has historical parallels. When a state breaks up for one reason or another the parts do not have to falsify history; they do not have to interpret their existence as a unified state as a period of slavery. The honest course is to recognise secession for what it is.

If today Quebec (separates) from Canada, will the inhabitants of Quebec be called upon to maintain that the period they were together in Canada was a period of slavery? Sudan and Egypt were united administratively under the British and there was a short period after British rule was terminated when they formed one state. Now that Sudan and Egypt are politically independent of each other, they do not speak of the past as a period of Egyptian colonialism. The same thing is true of Malaysia and Singapore. The pattern of historical change in which a form of association is ended by separation is noticed also in the present relationship of Norway and Sweden. This is wholly different from colonialism, which implies involuntary subjugation of one country by another.

The followers of Mujib would have the world believe, in the face of all known and universally acknowledged facts, that the union of Bengal and West Pakistan was the result of the forcible imposition upon the former of the changes of 1947, an assertion that would reduce an entire population of the status of willing victims of political enslavement and its leaders of that of traitors. Logically, then, the people of Bengal ought to celebrate the anniversary date, August 14, 1947 when India and Pakistan representing the entire population of the subcontinent became free as a day of mourning. How long could such a blatant falsehood be sustained?

REAL ANNIVERSARY:

To try to do so at all would be to obstruct the possibility of the bitternesses and rancour of the civil-war of 1971 being ever eliminated. The Mijibites may amuse themselves with any interpretation of history they like, but can they expect those who were opposed to them, and who bitterly opposed secession, to reconcile themselves to the monstrousand bizarre idea that the years between 1947 and 1971 were years of slavery?

The anniversary date August 14 retains the same significance for the inhabitants of Bangladesh today as it did in the twenty three years when it was East Pakistan, an anniversary marking end of British rule, the termination of the white man's burden, when their ancestors exercised their right to choose for themselves the kind of political destiny they thought best for posterity. That the choice they made was repudiated by their progeny a quarter of a century later is, to put it mildly without going into controversy, a reflection of the unpredictability of historical processes, but to use the fact to cast a slur on their honour and integrity is to compound the political tragedy of 1971.

Unless the distinction between real independence and secession is recognised and the importance of August 14 as an anniversary is restored the disquiet in the soul of Bangladesh could never be cured, nor could the foundations of a policy of national reconciliation and reconstruction be well and truly laid.

The writer is a Bengali Muslim residing in London, England.

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Zia Declines Offer To Re-Join Commonwealth

Islamabad: British prime minister, James Callaghan arrived in Islamabad on Jan. 11, 1978 following a two week tour of Bangladesh and India, and was received by CMLA, Gen. Zia ul Haq. It was reported that the subject of British aid, trade between the two countries and immigration were discussed between Mr. Callaghan and Gen. Zia.

It is reported that Mr. Callaghan also discussed the possibility of Pakistan re-joining the Commonwealth which it left in early 1972 but Gen. Zia did not commit Pakistan to such a course. The general is reported to have left the subject to a future government which is likely to be elected in October 1978. Elections, meanwhile, were ruled out for March 1978 since the process of accountability would not be completed by then.

Azam Khan Launches New Party

Lt. Gen. (Ret'd.) Azam Khan welcome the new year by the formation of a new political party in Pakistan to be called "Jinnah League." Azam Khan gained prominence in the early days of Ayub Khan for rehabilitating hundreds of thousands of refugees from India into proper housing. Later he gained popularity when he followed an open-door policy in East Pakistan. This incidentally also earned him the sack as Ayub saw in him a possible threat to his authority. Since that time, Azam Khan led a life of almost total seclusion except for a brief appearance during the 1965 election campaign for Miss Fatima Jinnah and also during the 1968 agitation against Ayub Khan.

Recently he came out of seclusion and has now announced the formation of this party.

Sheikh Al-Sabbah of Kuwait Passes Away

In Pakistan, the Government announced a seven-day official mourning in the country on the passing away of the Amir of Kuwait.

Pakistan flag was lowered at half mast immediately on the receipt of the news. The national flag remained at half mast for three days as a mark of respect, for Shaikh Sabah al Salim as Sabah, who was highly respected as a sincere friend of Pakistan. He had been a pillar of support for the Arab and Islamic World.

The late Amir of Kuwait visited Pakistan in February 1974 to attend the Islamic Summit. He had a meeting with the chief martial law administrator General Mohammed Ziaul Haq in Kuwait in October 1977.

President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry and the chief martial law administrator General Mohammad Ziaul Haq have expressed their profound sense of shock and grief at the passing away of the Amir of Kuwait.

The chief martial law administrator said the late Amir was a sincere and most valued friend of Pakistan and made an outstanding contribution towards the consolidation of brotherly relations between the peoples of the two countries.

New Electoral Rolls For A.K.

New electoral rolls are to be prepared for elections to the Azad Jammu and Kashmir assembly and the task is to be completed within six months. The new rolls would be prepared on the basis of fresh enumerations.

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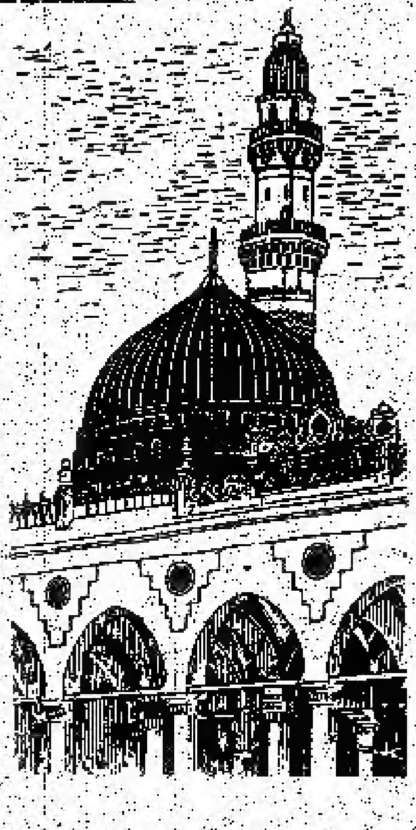
Islamic Heritage:

Knowledge and Islam

By Joseph Elmaleh



In the Islamic heritage, knowledge was part of spiritual essence. Great emphasis was placed on acquiring knowledge, the first verses revealed to Prophet Muhammad, the last messenger, were to command him to read:

"Read in the name of thy Lord and cherisher...he who taught by [the use of] the pen, taught man that which he knew not."

[Quran: XCVI-I]

Prophet Muhammad gave many sayings to encourage knowledge and considered the acquiring of knowledge obligatory for all Muslims.

"The acquisition of knowledge is a duty incumbent on every Muslim male and female."

Although he favoured learned men he also warned of the misuse of knowledge. "The worst of men is a bad learned man, and a good learned man is the best." The last prophet not only favoured the learned man and considered him the best man but also encouraged people to honour the knowledgeable man as they honoured him (the prophet). "Those who honoureth the learned, honoureth me." He even went further to consider it as a divine commandment.

"The desire of knowledge is a divine commandment for every Muslim; and to instruct in knowledge those who are unworthy of it is like putting pearls, jewels, and gold on the neck of swines."

Those who desired knowledge for the sake of God and for the purpose of perpetuating belief in him but died while seeking that knowledge were considered almost equal to the Prophet.

"That person who shall die while he is studying knowledge, in order to revive the knowledge of religion will be only one degree inferior to the Prophet."

The existence of knowledge in the Islamic society was not enough for Islam. It urged all to study for if the learned were taken away, the whole sociey might be confused and fall into errors.

"Verily God doth not take away knowledge from the hands of His servants; but takes it by taking away the learned; so that when no learned men remain, the ignorant will be placed at the head of affairs. Cases will be submitted to their decision, they will pass sentence without knowledge, will error themselves, and lead others into error."

Knowledge paved the way to progress, and rightly on its path man could attain the perfection of happiness.

"With knowledge man riseth to the heights of goodness and to a noble position, associateth with sovereigns in this world, and attaineth to the perfection of happiness in the next,"
said the Prophet. This great emphasis of Islam on acquiring knowledge urged many Muslims to seek knowledge not only in the land of Islam but to cross the borders and find it in other lands, which enlightened the Islamic society and built a strong foundation for the early Islamic civilization.

Joseph Elmaleh: an Arab Canadian Immigration, born in Gaza in 1945. Editor of Jerusalem Times which suspended its publication in Vancouver, British Columbia in early 1977. He is now working on a book, that in part deals with Arabic and Islamic heritage and its influence on Europe.

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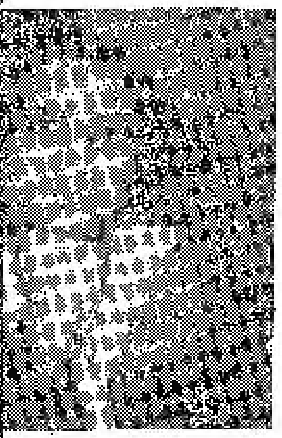

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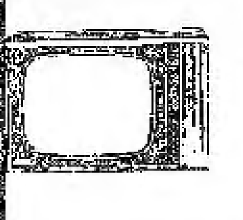

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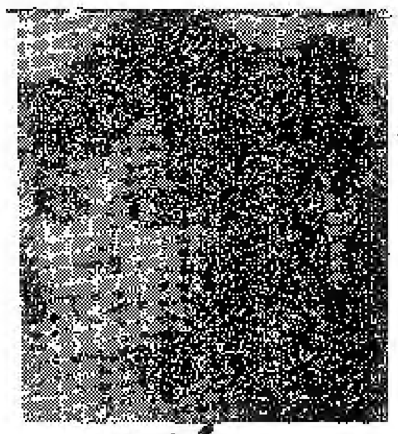

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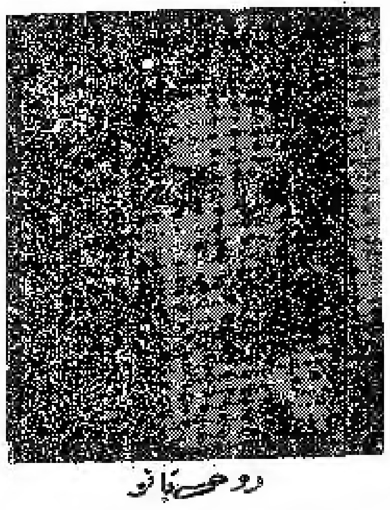

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جام نو

دو غزلیں

یا ہوا ہے کبھی پیار نہ رکھے کوئی
یا گناہوں سے سروکار نہ رکھے کوئی

ساتھیو ہم کو تمازت کا سفر ہے درپیش
خواہش سایۂ دیوار نہ رکھے کوئی

رابطہ ہم جو نہ ہو اس کو سمٹنا اچھا
اپنے کاندھوں پہ یونہی بار نہ رکھے کوئی

چڑھتے سورج کا پجاری ہے زمانہ سارا
اب عبادت کا بھی معیار نہ رکھے کوئی

[illegible]
[illegible] سروکار نہ رکھے کوئی

[illegible]

ایک بکھرا ہوا منظر ہوں اٹھا لے مجھ کو
چھپ کے خود اپنی ہی آنکھوں سے چرا لے مجھ کو

خوبصورت سے مرے بھی کوئی معنی نکلیں
ان کہی بات ہوں [illegible] سجا لے مجھ کو

ایک مدت ایک ہی موسم کا میں شہکار نہیں
آ بدلتے ہوئے رنگوں میں بسا لے مجھ کو

ڈھانپ لے اپنی قبا میں مری عریانی بھی
اپنے ہی جسم کا پیوند بنا لے مجھ کو

[illegible]
اب تو [illegible] ڈھالے مجھ کو

[illegible]
درد ہوں میں [illegible] مجھ کو

میں کہ لفظوں کے ذخیرے میں آیا تھی
وہ تو دیتا تھا کتابوں کے حوالے مجھ کو

[illegible]

(طنز و مزاح)

عطاء الحق قاسمی

یہ بیچارے سادہ دل بے کدھر جائیں؟

[illegible]

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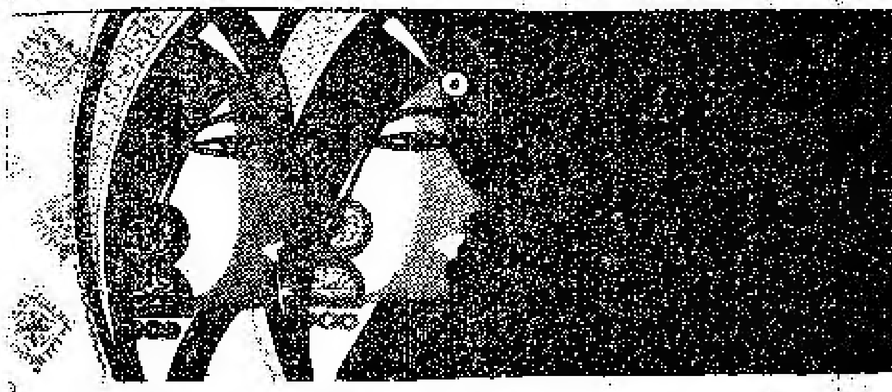

بہنوں کی محفل

انشائیہ ——— نسیم اختر عبدالحلیم

مجھے میری سہیلیوں سے بچاؤ

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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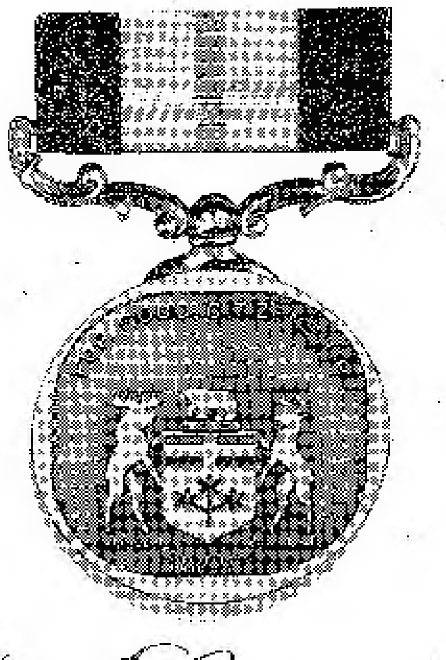

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شوز فرکیڈ

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[illegible]

قوم پھر گوش بر آواز ہے

اس وقت پاکستان کا [illegible] سیاست دان [illegible] پاکستان کی تاریخ [illegible]

[illegible]

مدینہ منورہ سے رخصت

اب ہوا جو یہ آخری ہے سلام ۔ گوشۂ چشم لطف سوئے غلام
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رخصت اے نورِ گنبدِ خضریٰ ۔ اے متاعِ سرور و کیف و ولا
الفراق اے مقامِ عجز و نیاز ۔ معدنِ لطف و جلوہ گاہِ ناز
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رخصت ابوابِ مسجدِ نبوی ۔ تیرا دامن ہے نورِ عرفانی
الوداع اے بہارِ خلد نشاں ۔ رخصت اے بیکسوں کی جائے اماں
رخصت اے مسجدِ قبا کی زمیں ۔ مرکزِ ذوق و شوق و نورِ یقیں
باغِ سلمانِ فارسی کو سلام ۔ عشقِ احمد کا دے رہا ہے پیام
پیکرِ آرزوئے پیغمبر ۔ رخصت اے قبلتین کے منظر
الفراق اے زمینِ بدر نشاں ۔ نصرتِ حق کا راز تجھ پہ عیاں
الوداع اے احد کی پاک زمیں ۔ اے شہیدوں کی جلوہ گاہِ حسیں
جنگِ خندق کی سرزمیں کو سلام ۔ مرکزِ جذبۂ حسیں کو سلام
مسجدیں پانچ یاں پرانی ہیں ۔ دورِ اقدس کی یہ نشانی ہیں
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٭ حافظ لدھیانوی

زر بصیرت

کردارِ فاروقی

[illegible]

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مجھے بے نیاز تو دونوں ہیں آپ اے حضرت
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[illegible]

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(ضربِ کلیم)

قائد اعظم نے فرمایا

[illegible]

(اجلاس مسلم لیگ ، کلکتہ - ۱۰ اکتوبر ۱۹۳۷ء)

مفتی محمود اور پروفیسر غفور احمد دوبارہ قومی اتحاد کے صدر اور سیکرٹری جنرل منتخب ہو گئے

پیر پگارہ اتحاد کے پارلیمانی بورڈ کے چیئرمین رہیں گے

لاہور اعلیٰ کونسل کمیٹی کا چیئرمین اور رفیق احمد صدیقی کو اطلاعات کا سیکرٹری منتخب کر لیا گیا

میں سیاست سے تھک چکا ہوں اور اب ریٹائرڈ زندگی گزارنا چاہتا ہوں

جنرل ضیاء انتخابات کرانے میں مخلص ہیں

—— ممتاز دولتانہ

چار غیر ملکی کمپنیوں سے پاکستان میں تیل کی تلاش کے معاہدے کیے جا چکے ہیں: ڈاکٹر صادق

تیل کے موجودہ ذخائر تیرہ برس تک نکالنے کے لیے ۲ ہزار ارب روپے خرچ آئیں گے

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اٹک اور حیدرآباد کیس میں سزا یافتہ فوجی افسروں کو سزاؤں میں چھوٹ مل سکے گی

گیارہ ہزار سیاسی قیدی رہا کر دیئے گئے اور ۱۷۰۰ مقدمات واپس لے لیے گئے

اب صرف ۲۰۰ نظربندوں کے خلاف فوجداری مقدمات درج ہیں: ضیاء الحق

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علامہ اقبال کے بارے میں غیر ملکی زبانوں میں ریڈیو کا خصوصی مجلہ

بھٹو کے خلاف مزید چار مقدمات عنقریب عدالت میں پیش کئے جائیں گے

بھٹو نے اپنے غیر ملکی دوست کو ۷ لاکھ روپے سے زائد کے ٹھیکے سے نوازا تھا

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مسلم لیگی اور دوسرے [illegible] پارٹی [illegible]

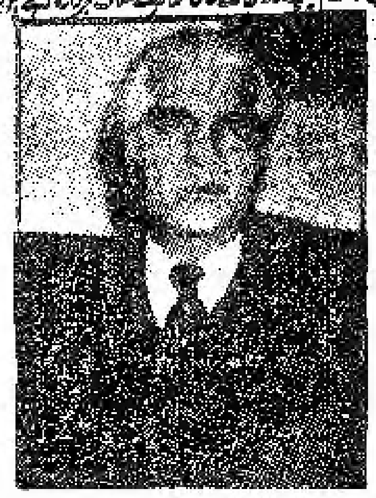
ذاتی اختلافات [illegible]

صوبہ سرحد کی اکثریت مسلم لیگی ذہن رکھتی ہے

ولی خاں کی رہائی ملک کی سیاسی زندگی کا اہم موڑ ہے

نظریاتی اختلاف حل کیے بغیر این ڈی پی سے تعاون نہیں ہو سکتا

سرحد مسلم لیگ لیڈر محمد یوسف خٹک سے خصوصی انٹرویو



اسوۂ حسینؑ ہمارے لیے مینارۂ نور کی حیثیت رکھتا ہے - مولانا شاہ احمد نورانی

جنرل ضیاء الحق کے ساتھ ملاقات میں اہم قومی مسائل پر بات چیت ہوئی - بیگم ولی خاں

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انہوں نے بوگس ویزوں پر سینکڑوں پاکستانیوں کو بیرون ملک بھجوا دیا

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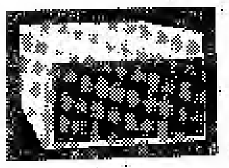

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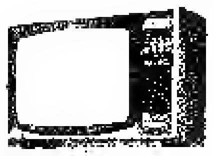

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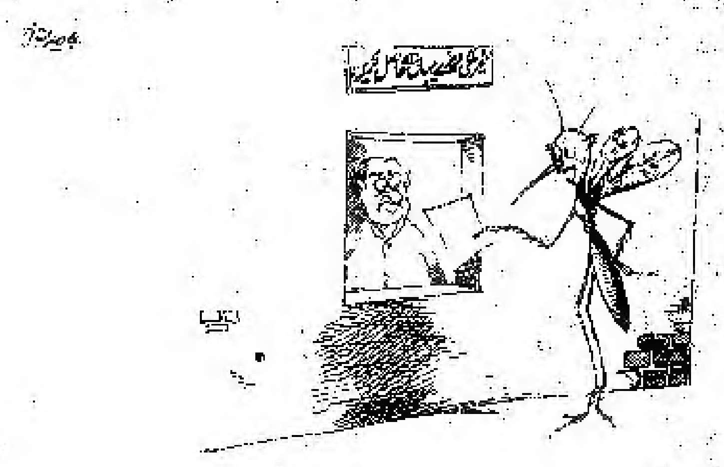
پندرہ روزہ

کریسنٹ انٹرنیشنل

ٹورانٹو، کینیڈا

جلد ۶ | ۱۵ جنوری ۱۹۷۸ء | ۶ صفر ۱۳۹۸ھ | شمارہ ۲۱



یہاں لوگوں میں غیرت اتی نہیں رہی – جو سیاست داں ... ! [illegible]

بھٹو سیاسی قیدی نہیں : عفوِ عامہ کی عالمی تنظیم ان کا دفاع نہیں کرے گی

سابق وزیر اعظم فوجداری مقدمات میں ملوث ہیں

تنظیم مقدمے کی کارروائی کے لئے اپنے مبصرین بھی نہیں بھیجے گی

پاکستان میں اس وقت ایک بھی ضمیر کا قیدی نہیں ، مارٹن اینلز

[illegible]

[illegible]

عبدالولی خاں نیشنل ڈیموکریٹک پارٹی میں شامل ہو گئے

جنرل ضیاء الحق کے سیاسی اقدامات کا خیر مقدم

[illegible]

بہاری ... کو پاکستان لانے کے انتظامات

حکومت پاکستان ... کا اقوام متحدہ سے رابطہ

[illegible]

بھٹو نے نبیے خان کو ولی خان کے خلاف بیان دینے کے عوض ہار کر دینے کی پیشکش کی تھی

[illegible]

پاکستان میں دریافت تیل کی موجودہ مقدار ... سال تک ملکی ضروریات پوری کر سکتی ہے : ...

[illegible]

انتظامیہ بھی پیپلز پارٹی کے ساتھ ساز باز کرتی رہتی ہے

ہماری پارٹی قومی جماعت کی حیثیت رکھتی ہے : اصغر خاں

[illegible]

پیپلز پارٹی کی حامی خواتین کے جلوس کو منتشر کر دیا گیا

قانون شکنی کرنے والی خواتین کی گرفتاری کیلئے چھاپے مارے جا رہے ہیں

[illegible]

پیپلز پارٹی کی دو خواتین کو نظر بند کر دیا گیا

[illegible]

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